



Waterski Pro Tour & Point Framework 2024

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Contents

1. Glossary	2
2. The Waterski Pro Tour	2
3. Pro Points.....	3
4. Event Classification.....	3
a) Star Level Divisions.....	3
b) Intro Classification Divisions	3
c) Three Year Limited Time Period for Intro Divisions	4
d) Divisions at Differing Levels Within the Same Event	4
e) Star Classification Upgrade for Multiple Disciplines in Single Event	4
5. Pro Point Allocation for Each Event Classification	5
a) Additional Points for Best Score	5
b) Point Allocation for Ties in an Event.....	6
c) Skier Payout.....	6
6. Event Competitive Format	6
7. Pro Tour Leaderboard/ Standing	6
a) Skiers Appearing on the Pro Tour Leaderboard/ Standing.....	6
b) Ties on Pro Tour Leaderboard/ Standing.....	6
c) Seeding in Events	7
8. Skier Pro Point Total Calculation	7
a) Final Date for Confirmation of Number of Events that affect Pro Point Totals	7
9. Event Sanctioning and Date Registration.....	8
a) Organiser Right of Refusal for Date for Star Level events	8
10. Skier Access to Tour Events	9
a) Access to Countries Hosting Events	9
11. Division Specific Rules.....	9
a) Men’s Jump - Minimum Prize Purse for Night Jump events.....	9

Waterski Pro Tour & Points Framework

1. Glossary

- **Discipline**
A form of the three traditional types of competitive waterskiing: slalom, tricks or jump.
- **Division**
A discipline involving only one gender. E.g., Women's Jump
- **Event**
A tournament at which skiers compete for Pro Points and Prize Money in one or more disciplines.
- **Event Classification Level**
The Star or Intro classification that each event belongs to based on a variety of factors including financial prize budget, webcast etc.
- **Pro Points**
The points awarded to skiers at WaterSki Pro Tour events based on their final competitive placement.
- **Pro Point Total**
The total of each skier's points from a set number of the season's events that determine placement on the WaterSki Pro Tour Leaderboard or Standing.
- **Pro Tour Leaderboard**
The running ranking of skier placement based on Pro Point Total during the season.
- **Pro Tour Standing**
The final ranking of skier placement based on Pro Point Total at the end of a given season.

2. The Waterski Pro Tour

The Waterski Pro Tour is a yearly series of water ski events in the disciplines of slalom, jump and trick, competed in by both men and women. Each division (the gender-specific category for each discipline) has its own Tour Leaderboard for men and women that is updated throughout the year. This culminates with the end of year Pro Standing in which placements for the season are finalized and a Champion is crowned in each division.

3. Pro Points

Each event on the Waterski Pro Tour awards Pro Points to the competing skiers in accordance with their final competitive position. The number of Pro Points allocated to each position is determined by each event’s respective Star/ Intro level classification.

4. Event Classification

The divisions within each event are categorized as belonging to one of eight “Star” or three “Intro” classifications (11 total classifications). This classification determines how many Pro Points are on offer to the participating skiers.

The classification that each division within an event belongs to relies on a variety of factors including financial prize budget, webcast etc.

a) Star Level Divisions

For an event’s division to be classified as a Star Level division, it must provide all of the following:

- Webcast
- Live Web-Based Scoring System
- Tournament Bibs
- IWWF Ratified boat path monitoring (for applicable disciplines)

Beyond these requirements the Star Level is defined by the total prize purse per division:

Star Level Classification	Minimum Prize Purse per Division (in USD)
8 star	48k+
7 star	39k
6 star	30k
5 star	24k
4 star	21k
3 star	18k
2 star	15k
1 star	12k

b) Intro Classification Divisions

For an event’s division to be classified as an Intro Level division, it must provide all of the following:

- Live Web-Based Scoring System
- IWWF Ratified boat path monitoring (for applicable disciplines)

Beyond these requirements the Intro Classification is defined by the total prize purse per division :

Intro Level Classification	Minimum Prize Purse per Division (in USD)
Intro 3	10k
Intro 2	7.5k
Intro 1	5k

c) Three Year Limited Time Period for Intro Divisions

- 1) Intro divisions can be upgraded to Star classification in the second or third year if the event organiser wishes. However, Intro divisions can only remain at an Intro classification for a maximum of three years. After this, the event must upgrade this division to a Star Level classification or the division will lose Pro Tour status.
- 2) If a division starts at Intro 1, it must move up to Intro 2 for the second year and then again to Intro 3 for the third year before again moving to a 1 Star or higher classification for the fourth year.
- 3) A division starting at Intro 2 may repeat a year at the same level before moving up to Intro 3 for the third year and then up to a 1 Star or higher classification for the fourth year.
- 4) If a division starts at Intro 3, it may remain at the same classification for the second and third year before moving up to 1 Star or higher classification for the fourth year.
- 5) Once a division has reached a Star Level classification it cannot go back down to Intro.

d) Divisions at Differing Levels Within the Same Event

Divisions within an event can be classified at any of the eight Star or three Intro classifications. However, they must also adhere to following:

1. Within each event, each division at a Star level must be within one Star classification of the corresponding division of that discipline.
 - a. *E.g., It is permitted for the Women's Slalom division to have a Prize Purse of \$15,000 (2 Star) if the Men's Slalom division's Prize Purse is \$12,000 (1 Star).*
 - b. *E.g., It is not permitted for Men's Slalom division to have a Prize Purse of \$18,000 (3 Star) if the Women's Slalom division has Prize Purse of \$12,000 (1 Star).*
 - c. *The exception to this is when an event that has previously only had one division of the two from a certain discipline. The event can add the corresponding discipline at an Intro level as it aims to build it up to a point closer to parity. When the new division moves to a Star level it must increase by at least one Star classification every year until it is within one Star classification.*
2. For a division to reach 4 Star classification, the corresponding division of that discipline must be present at the event, regardless of prize purse. If, within an event, one division has a \$21k or greater prize purse but the corresponding division in that discipline is not present, that division will be classified as 3 Star.
3. If an event has multiple disciplines, each discipline can be separated by any number of Star or Intro classifications so long as the two divisions within any discipline are within a single classification of one another (but see 4.d.1.c. for new division). This is to allow for existing events that only contain one discipline to bring in newer disciplines and build them sustainably within the event for the future.

e) Star Classification Upgrade for Multiple Disciplines in Single Event

1. If an event contains both divisions in the same discipline (i.e., both genders are represented) at a Star classification, the Star classification for both divisions will be upgraded one Star classification level from the level they would usually qualify for based on Prize Money. This

reflects the added value of having both divisions involved in Tour events in the effort to promote water skiing.

- *E.g., An event with \$15,000 for only men’s slalom would usually qualify for 2 Star classification. If the organiser additionally includes women’s slalom at \$12,000 (usually 1 Star classification), both divisions are upgraded to 3 and 2 Star respectively.*
- 2. Events which have multiple divisions where both genders are not represented in the same discipline will not be upgraded any Star Level.
 - *E.g., An event at 2 Star for Men’s Slalom and 2 Star for Men’s Jump (but no other divisions) will not receive upgrades in either division.*
- 3. This classification upgrade only concerns Star Level classification divisions. The inclusion of an Intro division will not result in an upgrade in Star level to either discipline. Similarly, the inclusion of more than one Intro division will not receive an upgrade in terms of Pro Tour points.
- 4. Each division may only ever be upgraded by a single Star level. The addition of extra disciplines does not result in further upgrades beyond the initial single level upgrade.

f) Exceptions for Tricks and Jump Disciplines

1. These points below are aimed at the growth of events in the tricks and jump disciplines. The goal is for these disciplines to be featured more frequently in Waterski Pro Tour stops.
2. For tricks and jump events, tournaments can remain at Intro levels for multiple years in a row and at the same level for more than one year.
3. Similarly, trick and jump tournaments do not have to abide by the rules of start classification as described in points 6.d.1. Therefore, cases where the difference in stars within these disciplines exceeds 1 star will be allowed.
4. Despite these exceptions will be granted by default, Waterski Pro Tour encourages tournament organisers to reach start level in due time and follow the rules for intro classifications.

5. Pro Point Allocation for Each Event Classification

Minimum Prize Money (Per Division)	48k+	39k	30k	24k	21k	18k	15k	12k	10k	7.5k	5k
Placement	8 Star	7 Star	6 Star	5 Star	4 Star	3 Star	2 Star	1 Star	Intro 3	Intro 2	Intro 1
1st	160	130	100	80	70	60	50	40	34	25	16
2nd	128	104	80	64	56	48	40	32	27	20	12
3rd	104	87	66	52	47	40	33	26	22	16	9
4th	80	65	50	40	35	30	25	20	17	12	7
5th	64	52	40	32	28	24	20	16	13	9	5
6th	52	39	30	26	22	18	15	12	9	6	3
7th	38	28	20	19	16	13	10	8	5	3	2
8th	28	22	16	14	12	10	8	5	2	1	1
9th	20	13	11	10	8	6	4	3			

10th	16	9	9	8	6	4	3	2			
11th	8	4	4	4	4	2	2	1			
12th	4	2	2	2	2	1	1	1			
Best Score	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			

a) Additional Points for Best Score

The skier who performs the outright best score of a Star Level division, regardless of final placement, is awarded 2 points in addition to any Pro Points awarded for competitive placement. The best score can be performed in any round of the event. If multiple skiers tie for best score 0 points are awarded.

b) Point Allocation for Ties in an Event

- Should there be a tie in a division, the Pro Points for that placement and as many further placements as are involved in the tie are added up and divided evenly between all tied skiers.
- The number of points will be rounded to the nearest whole number.
 - *E.g., There is a three way tie for 3rd in a 2 Star event. 33, 25 and 20 are added to make 78 and split to make 26. Each skier in the tie receives 26 points.*
- Pro Points allocation and prize money payout for placement are aligned. If ties are broken at an event for prize money payout, Pro Points will be awarded in the same way.
- Point Allocation for Ties in an Event

c) Skier Payout

The Skier's payout is at the discretion of the tournament organiser. Organisers can split the cash prize within a division as they want, as long as the Payout is communicated to Waterski Pro Tour in writing 45 days prior to the start of the event. If the Skier's Payout has not been communicated to Waterski Pro Tour 45 days prior to the start of the event, the organiser commits to follow the Waterski Pro Tour Suggested Payout. The Waterski Pro Tour Suggested Payout can be found under the event Organizer Resources at the following link:

<https://www.waterskiprotour.com/event-organizer-resources>

6. Event Competitive Format

Each event may use a competitive format of its choosing. For continuity, simplicity for the viewer and webcast communication team, it is encouraged that the format used is taken from the Waterski Pro Tour endorsed format list (see separate document). If a different format is used, it must be outlined in writing and submitted at least 45 days prior to the event for publication and dissemination.

7. Pro Tour Leaderboard/ Standing

The Pro Standing/ Tour Leaderboard ranks the skiers according to their Pro Point Total. The skier with the highest Pro Point Total is 1st and so on down the list. At the end of the year after the last event, the final Pro Standing reflects each skier's final position. The number 1 ranked skier on the list is crowned Pro Tour Champion.

During the season, when there are still events that can add to a skier's Pro Point Total, the ongoing ranking is called the Pro Tour Leaderboard. At the end of the season when placements have been finalized the ranking is called the Pro Standing.

The Pro Tour Leaderboard and Standing is calculated on a yearly basis starting on the first day of the calendar year. At this point each skier will start with 0 points. Pro Points are added throughout the season immediately upon the completion of each Pro Tour event, updating the Pro Tour Leaderboard.

a) Skiers Appearing on the Pro Tour Leaderboard/ Standing

Only those skiers who have collected points appear on the Pro Tour Leaderboard or Standing. There is no placement for those with 0 Pro Points.

b) Ties on Pro Tour Leaderboard/ Standing

- If there is a Pro Point Total tie on the Pro Tour Leaderboard at any time during the season the skiers involved remain tied for that place.
- If at the end of the season there is a Pro Point total tie involving two or more skiers on the Pro Standing, each skier's next highest scoring event is taken into account beyond those already involved in the calculation (see point 8. below for calculation criteria) to break the tie. Should there still be a tie, then as many extra events are taken into account as are needed to break the tie. If a tie still remains it is broken by the best position in a 5 star event, followed by the next 5 star event and so on. If a tie still remains it is broken by the best position in a 4 star event followed by the next 4 star events, then 3 Star and so on.

c) Seeding in Events

The current Pro Tour Leaderboard (as adjusted after each event) is used for seeding skiers for each Pro Tour event throughout the season.

- Any ties on the Leaderboard are broken for the seeding with regards to the previous year's final Pro Standing. Tied skiers who did not appear on the previous years Pro Standing are seeded according to the most recent IWWF Dynamic List.
- For the first Pro Tour event of the season, the previous year's Pro Standing is used for seeding. Skiers who did not appear on the previous year's Pro Standing are seeded according to the most recent IWWF Dynamic List.
- From the second event of the season onwards, those not on the Leaderboard (as they have 0 Pro Points) are seeded with regards to the previous year's Standing. Skiers with 0 Pro Points in the current year who did not appear on the previous years Pro Standing are seeded according to the most recent IWWF Dynamic List .
 - *E.g., The end of year Pro Standing for the previous year had Skier A in 1st, Skier B in 2nd and Skier C in 3rd. In the new year Skier B and Skier C enter the first event. Skier B will be top seed with Skier C 2nd seed. Skier B wins the first event and Skier C comes 2nd. Skier B and C are 1st and 2nd respectively on the updated Leaderboard. Skier A, Skier B and Skier C all enter the second event. Because Skier B and Skier C have the most points for the current year they are seeded 1 and 2 respectively. Skier A has no points. Skier A will be seeded below all the skiers who were awarded points in the first event (who are therefore on the Pro Tour Leaderboard) but above all the skiers who do not yet have points for the current year.*

8. Skier Pro Point Total Calculation

Not all events are necessarily taken into account when calculating each skier's yearly Pro Point Total that defines their position on the Pro Tour Leaderboard and ultimately Pro Tour Standing.

Only Star Level events will affect the total number taken towards the Pro Point Total. Intro Level events will not affect the number of events taken into account. However, skiers may accumulate points towards their Pro Point Total by competing in these events.

(If Star Level events count for less than 50% of the total events of the season, for any division, then events with \$7500 or more count as if they are Star Level events for calculating how many events that contribute to Pro Point Total.)

a) Final Date for Confirmation of Number of Events that affect Pro Point Totals

The number of events that will contribute to the Pro Point Total will be confirmed and finalised on April 30th of each year. Any events that are added after this date will not increase the number of events that contribute to the Pro Point Total. Skiers may, however, earn Pro Points at these events.

Confirmed Number of Star Level Event (per division) prior to April 30th	Number of Events that Contribute to Pro Point Total
1	1
2 or 3	2
4 or 5	3
6	4
7, 8 or 9	5
10 or 11	6
12 or 13	7
14 or 15	8
...	...

9. Event Sanctioning and Date Registration

No Star classification tour events involving the same division can overlap. Once an event is registered no other event may take that date. Intro classification events may occur simultaneously to one another but cannot overlap with a Star classification event. However, events involving different divisions may occur simultaneously.

- *ie. A Star classification event only involving men’s slalom is registered on a certain date. A Star classification event involving only women’s slalom may be registered for that date in another part of the world.*

All applications to be part of Waterski Pro Tour must include commitment to the Prize Purse of each division along with Webcast plans and other details. Prize Money must be detailed in US Dollars. Organisers may request a date for their event up to one year in advance. The latest date for a request is 45 days in advance of the proposed start of the event. No event registered later than 45 days in advance may be included in the Pro Tour.

Should an already registered event decide to upgrade their Star status (E.g., new sponsorship allowing extra Prize Money or other qualifying criterion) or add new events or divisions with those events, it must be requested at least 45 days before the start of the event, in fairness to the skiers and their travel plans. An event can be downgraded to a lower classification due to non-compliance with classification requirements at any time. In this situation, beyond the loss of the previous Star rating for the current year, the event loses any right of refusal protection for the following year.

a) Organiser Right of Refusal for Date for Star Level events

After the successful execution of a Star Level event, the organiser has first right of refusal for that date/weekend of the following year. This right is held up until the end of that calendar year or 6 months prior to the date in question, whichever is first.

Should a different event organiser request the date of a current year event for the following year prior to the expiration of the right of refusal and before the current year organiser has registered, the current year event organiser must either confirm their plan to hold their event within 30 days or before the right of refusal finishes (whichever is first) or surrender the date. No Star Level event can have its date taken by another event if it is confirmed for the following year within 30 days or before the right of refusal finishes (whichever is first), even if the newly proposed event is of a higher Star level.

10. Skier Access to Tour Events

There is to be no requirement beyond an entry fee and minimum score/ranking placement for a skier to enter a Tour event. The exception to this is when an event has a qualification criteria involving an invitation. The criteria for invitation events must be performance-based (E.g., winner of certain events, etc.). Any new events that propose such a requirement will have to be approved by the Pro Tour Committee in order to acquire Pro Tour status.

a) Access to Countries Hosting Events

Pro Tour events must be accessible to the field of competitors. Only events where skiers have the ability to enter the country will be eligible for the Tour. If a proposed event is to be held in a country with travel sanctions to the point that a significant part of the field will not be able to enter, the event will not be eligible for Tour event status. If a travel restriction comes into place after Tour status has been awarded, Tour status may be taken away.

The Tour status of an event will not be affected if the country hosting an event requires visiting athletes to be vaccinated or to undergo a testing protocol.

11. Division Specific Rules

a) Men's Jump - Minimum Prize Purse for Night Jump events

Night jump events can be part of the Waterski Pro Tour only if jumping performed in the dark under lights has a prize purse of \$15,000 or more, regardless of Star classification level. This rule applies if any or all rounds of the event are under lights. This is to recognise the increased risks of jumping under such conditions.